

## **Minutes of DAAC Meeting**

### **Call to Order**

Co-Chair Seren Derin called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

### **Attendance**

DAAC members present were: Seren Derin, Jim MacRostie, Joan Rising and Joe Tringali

Others present were: Tom Davies of Amherst College, Carolyn Holstein, DAAC staff liaison, Roy Rosenblatt, Human Services, and members of the public Dana Goddard and Jane Gamache

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### **Minutes**

Minutes from the June meeting were available, but there was no quorum for discussion/approval at the beginning of the meeting. They will be discussed at the September DAAC meeting.

### **Review of Lord Jeffrey Inn proposed Renovations**

Tom Davies, Architect from Amherst College, brought plans of the proposed Renovations of the Lord Jeffrey Inn, owned by the College. He gave the following information:

- The Inn is an underperforming asset to the community;
- The renovation will take about 3 years, from November, 2008 to Spring, 2010;
- The charm and antique feeling of the building will remain, but it will be much more accessible;
- A new indoor banquet room will be added along Spring Street and the gardens will be restored;
- It will be more energy efficient and embrace the sun, with solar-panels and geo-thermal heat source;
- In terms of accessibility, the Boltwood Tavern and main entrance will be accessible, and the first floor will all be level, instead of the split level of now;
- An elevator will be provided at an entrance along Spring Street;
- There will be 70 rooms, 4 of which are wheelchair accessible (2 are required);
- All public restrooms will be accessible;
- An added parking area will be east of the building, close to the Alumni House, with a walkway up to the Inn;
- In terms of HP spaces, only one parking place is available along Spring Street next to the common.

The DAAC found the plans to be a significant improvement for patrons with disabilities and recommendable overall. The committee had some trouble with the proposed new parking lot, however. The new parking lot will be too far away for easy use for someone with disabilities, and there is no additional HP parking proposed along Spring Street or Boltwood Avenue. Mr. Davies and the DAAC agreed that they would both would pursue additional HP parking in the area.

### **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) monies**

Roy Rosenblatt said that there will be a meeting in early September (Sept. 17) to “re-program” the \$115,000 in remaining money from the latest CDBG allocation.

Repairing the Main Street sidewalk from Aspen Chase to the Police Station was originally part of the CDBG grant, he said. The estimate for the sidewalk improvement from Aspen Chase up to (Dickinson Street) was \$14,000.

The Committee agreed that removing barriers on Main Street sidewalks was important, since there are many pedestrians already, and improvements will allow more folks to use the sidewalk.

Mr. Rosenblatt said that there is a difference between barrier removal and ADA compliance. Andy Bristol (781-5555) should be able to help with both categories.

### **Membership**

Bernadette Hait sent a letter of resignation from the DAAC. Dana Goddard said he would like to be a member the committee, and Jane Gamache immediately sent in an application on his behalf.

Ms. Derin said that she would contact Madeline Peters to see if she was still interested in being a member of the committee.

### **List of Access Problems**

The DAAC had little time to prioritize the access problems listed on the agenda.

Two issues not listed are:

1. The take-out for La Piazza uses the handicapped parking spaces.
2. The Hanger has removed their HP signs. There should be three places for that restaurant.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Holstein, staff liaison